

GIBBINGS

Application No. 09/622,343

September 13, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 3, insert the following as separate paragraphs:

--BACKGROUND

1. Technical Field--.

Page 1, before line 6, insert the following as a separate paragraph:

--2. Description of Related Art--.

Page 1, before line 17, insert the following as a separate paragraph:

--SUMMARY OF EXEMPLARY NON-LIMITING EMBODIMENTS--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 5, as follows:

According to a feature of the invention there is provided apparatus for an asymmetric data connection comprising a head end router coupable to an ATM permanent virtual circuit (PVC) a PSTN modem coupled to the head end router, a plurality of downstream routers each coupable to the ATM PVC via respective ATM interfaces, and a plurality of downstream PSTN modems each coupled to a respective downstream router via a respective serial interface, each ATM interface of each respective downstream router being allocated, in use, a respective IP address in a single subnet, and each serial interface of each respective downstream router being allocated, in use, a respective IP address in a single subnet.

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Page 4, before line 20, insert the following as a separate paragraph:

--BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Page 4, before line 25, insert the following as a separate paragraph:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPLARY NON-LIMITING
EMBODIMENTS--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 21, as follows:

This causes a particular IP address range to be routed via a particular downstream router using the IP address of the relevant ATM interface. Thus, data for downstream interfaces on a particular downstream router will automatically be routed via the correct ATM PVC to the correct downstream router. At the downstream router, all upstream subnets are routed to the modem port. This provides a router for data being send out from the router. However, all addresses allocated to other downstream routers are routed to null. Thus, if data is still being passed over the ATM link via the satellite 6, from a previous customer, the high bandwidth data is not returned over the low bandwidth PSTN link, but instead is routed to null.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 22, as follows:

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In the time-shared user system shown in Figure 2, both customers 4,5 get the ATM feed 3 all the time, but only one can have access to the PSTN return path 6 at any given time.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 25, as follows:

There are several potential problems with time sharing. Firstly, the PSTN lines 6 must be managed to ensure that one customer's modem call does not block out the next customer's call. Secondly, customer lines will tend to be kept up by PIM updates, which are typically made every 30 seconds to identify whether the user is still online. They have to be actively cut off if a second customer requires to use the line. Thirdly, if the mechanism for moving customers from one location to another involves configuration changes they will have to be completed in full and checked every single time, with a mechanism for dealing with problems, for example if the downstream router is accidentally configured so that the head end cannot dial in.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 1, as follows:

~~CLAIMS~~ What is claimed is: